JUN 1 0 2003 Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. **Application Number** 10/047,208 TRANSMITTAL PADEMA Filing Date January 14, 2002 **FORM** First Named Inventor Shiohara, Akira Art Unit 3651 (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) **Examiner Name** Joseph E. Valenza Attorney Docket Number 2718-P3070.001 Total Number of Pages in This Submission **ENCLOSURES** (Check all that apply) After Allowance Communication to a Technology Center (TC) Fee Transmittal Form Drawing(s) Appeal Communication to Board Licensing-related Papers of Appeals and Interferences Fee Attached Appeal Communication to TC • Petition (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Amendment/Reply Petition to Convert to a Proprietary Information After Final **Provisional Application** Power of Attorney, Revocation Status Letter Change of Correspondence Address Affidavits/declaration(s) Other Enclosure(s) (please Terminal Disclaimer **Extension of Time Request** .. Identify below): return postcard Request for Refund **Express Abandonment Request** CD, Number of CD(s) Information Disclosure Statement Remarks Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) RECEIVED Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application JUN 1 2 2003... Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 **GROUP 3600** SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Firm William H. Griffith, Reg. No. 16,076 Reising, Ethington, Barnes, Kisselle, P.C. Individual

Signature Date CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Survive with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on this date: Typed or printed Irene M. Ries Date June 4, 2003

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

11A 6-13-03 FN DF

Application No.:

10/047,208

Applicant(s):

Shiohara, Akira

Filed:

January 14, 2002

Title:

ARTICLE JOINING CONTROL METHOD

Art Unit:

3651

Examiner:

Joseph E. Valenza

Atty. Docket No.:

2718-P3070.001

In reply to:

Office Action Dated April 14, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WTH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID, IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450. ON JUNE ________, 2003.

IRENE M. RIES

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Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner For Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

JUN 1 2 2003 GROUP 3600

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AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action dated April 14, 2003, amendment is

hereby made as follows: